

MTA-5013
7 November 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director. Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief. Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Tel Aviv Bureau -- October 1985

I. GENERAL

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Tel Aviv Bureau's long-awaited move [redacted] took place on 30 October. While the bulk of the bureau's furniture, papers, and equipment was packed and moved to the new bureau on 29 and 30 October, the actual transfer of bureau operations took place between day and evening shift on 30 October. Evening shift editors and monitors arrived on duty at the new location 2 hours early to ensure a smooth transfer of operations and the dayshift staff remained on duty at the embassy in a backstop capacity until it was clear that the transfer had been made successfully. The communications circuit at the embassy was taken down at 1500 (1300 GMT) and established at the new location at 1510. The transfer operation proceeded very smoothly and bureau personnel are adjusting quickly to their spacious new quarters.

The embassy was evacuated on 14 October due to a bomb threat; however, the all-clear was sounded very quickly and bureau resumed operations without requiring backstop assistance.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

The 1 October Israeli Air Force Bombing of the PLO headquarters in Tunis set the tone for the month. The bureau filed the IDF confirmation of the raid at flash precedence and the aftermath of the incident, including reaction to the UN resolution condemning Israel kept the Hebrew team and the bureau very busy.

Before the ripples from the Tunis attack had died down Palestinian terrorists on 7 October hijacked the Italian cruise ship "Achille Lauro," demanding the release of Palestinians held by Israel. The bureau instituted round-the-clock coverage of Israeli radios 8-9 October in response to Headquarters request citing "high-level consumer interest." The bureau was also asked to keep the ambassador's office informed of developments during the night. Normal operating hours were resumed on 9 October following the surrender of the hijackers, but at 0215 GMT on 10 October the bureau reopened at the Wire's request in order to monitor developments connected with the U.S. operation to capture the hijackers.

STAT Tel Aviv and Nicosiabureaus received "a special word of thanks from high-level consumer" for the round-the-clock coverage effort, and Embassy Political Section head Roger Harrison thanked bureau editor [] for keeping embassy political officers briefed on developments throughout the night.

Bureau's subscription to ITIM was terminated effective 1 October. The reasons for terminating the service were its extremely high cost and low productivity

From 21 to 31 October, the Turkish section sampled the 0810-0815 Turkish Cypriot press review, but found it did not contain news or comment meriting coverage

B. Communications

STAT The bureau telex circuit was taken down on 28 October and the equipment moved to [] office. Although the machine was tested successfully in the new building on 28 October, embassy TCU served as bureau's communications backstop until bureau began operating from its new location on 30 October. On this date, bureau's telephone, remote, and primary communications lines were officially switched over to

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C. Lateral Services

At the ambassador's request, the bureau has substantially expanded the file of material supplied to him. In particular, the bureau has added the MWR and all speeches by Arab leaders to the list of items provided. The request was made following the Ambassador's tour of the bureau in September and his talk with the visiting IG team later that month.

D. Technical

Bureau received the following items of non-expendable property during the month:

1. Two Comscribe printers, received from Washington.
2. One QRL-2 unit, received from Okinawa bureau.

Bureau engineers installed 2 of bureau's three remote lines using the Watkins-Johnson receivers and the QEI equipment.

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III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

Two bureau FBN's received promotions during the month. Administrative Assistant [redacted] was promoted to 7/3. while Hebrew section monitor [redacted] successfully completed her training period and was promoted to 8/1.

Chief. FBIS Tel Aviv Bureau

Attachments: a. Production Report
b. Communications Report

Tel Aviv Bureau Production Report for October 1985

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	290220
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	66980
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	804

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:	6078.00	840.00	51.00
(minutes or issues per week)	min.	min.	issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)

Clandestine Bavrak Radio in Turkish	6330
Clandestine Bavrak Radio in English	3440
Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian	7730
Clandestine Our Radio in Turkish	1990
Clandestine Voice of Turkish Communist Party in Turkish	3720

CYPRUS

Nicosia ANATOLIA in Turkish	0
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ISRAEL

Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew	82600
Jerusalem Domestic Service in English	19360
Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew	31210
Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic	1450
Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew	21560
Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English	2330
Jerusalem KOTERET RASHIT in Hebrew	3670

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English			16720
Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew			4340
Tel Aviv BEMAHANE in Hebrew			0
Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew			8170
Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew			16730
Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew			0
Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew			4320
Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew			1380
Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew			8470
Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew			8880
SOVIET UNION			
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew	1010		
Moscow in Dari	2490		
Moscow in Turkish	0		
TURKEY			
Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish	26520		
Ankara ANATOLIA in Turkish		670	
Ankara ANATOLIA in English		4240	
Ankara ANATOLIA in French		180	
Istanbul CUMHURIYET in Turkish			0
Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish			0
UNITED KINGDOM			
London BBC World Service in English	710		

TEL AVIV BUREAU MONTHLY COMMUNICATIONS REPORT FOR OCTOBER 85 ATTACHMENT B

1. TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED WAS 290,220 (255,740)
TOTAL NONPUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED WAS 66,980 (66,380)
DAILY WORDAGE FILED AVERAGED 11,523 (10,737)
HIGHEST DAILY WORDAGE FILED WAS 20,840 on 2 October 1985
LOWEST DAILY WORDAGE FILED WAS 4,450 on 7 October 1985
2. OUTAGES ON OUTGOING SKYMUX CIRCUIT TOTALED 17.5 HOURS, 3.4 PERCENT.
OUTAGES ON INCOMING SKYMUX CIRCUIT TOTALED 11.5 HOURS, 2.3 PERCENT.
OUTAGES: 2 October - Problem at STAT
4 October - Problem at
17 October - Maintenance work on roof.
25 October - Problems at TCU - local testing
26 October - TCU testing equipment
31 October - Tape reader malfunction

3. WORDS FILED VIA TELEX DURING OUTAGES OF THE SKYMUX CIRCUIT: 430

NB. Figures from preceding month in Parentheses.